

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please substitute claims 1-9 with the following:

1. (Currently Amended) A solid-state image pickup device comprising:

a circuit board having an opening;

a sensor package in which a chip of a solid-state image pickup element with a light-receiving surface is placed, the sensor package disposed at one surface of the circuit board so that the light-receiving surface of the chip of the solid-state image pickup element opposes the opening;

a seal adhered to the sensor package for sealing in the solid-state image pickup element;  
and

an optical unit disposed at the other surface of the circuit board so that incident light is focused on the light-receiving surface,

wherein the seal is placed within the opening of the circuit board.

2. (Original) A solid-state image pickup device according to Claim 1, wherein the sensor package includes a signal processing circuit for processing a signal of the solid-state image pickup element.

3. (Original) A solid-state image pickup device according to Claim 1, wherein the solid-state image pickup element has a signal processing function.

4. (Original) A solid-state image pickup device according to Claim 1, wherein the circuit board is connected to an external device without a connector.

5. (Currently Amended) A method of producing a solid-state image pickup device comprising the steps of:

providing a circuit board with an opening;

joining a sensor package, in which a chip of a solid-state image pickup element has been previously sealed, to one surface of the circuit board so that a light-receiving surface of the chip of the solid-state image pickup element opposes the opening and so that a seal adhered to the sensor package is placed within the opening of the circuit board; and

disposing and joining an optical unit at and to the other surface of the circuit board so that incident light is focused on the light-receiving surface.

6. (Original) A method of producing a solid-state image pickup device according to Claim 5, wherein the sensor package includes a signal processing circuit for processing a signal of the solid-state image pickup element.

7. (Original) A method of producing a solid-state image pickup device according to Claim 5, wherein the solid-state image pickup element has a signal processing function.

8. (Original) A method of producing a solid-state image pickup device according to Claim 5, wherein the circuit board is connected to an external device without a connector.

9. (Previously Presented) A solid-state image pickup device according to Claim 1, wherein the seal is a glass seal.